

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 02844 241646Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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R 241632Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7226
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, GE, GW
SUBJECT: EAST AND WEST GERMAN COMMUNIST PARTIES MEET

1. LEADERS OF THE SED AND OF THE WEST GERMAN
COMMUNIST PARTY (DKP) MET IN EAST BERLIN APRIL 17 TO 19.
IN ADDITION TO TALKS WITH HONECKER, THE DKP DELEGATION,
HEADED BY PARTY CHAIRMAN HERBERT MIES, VISITED A
NUMBER OF LOCAL PARTY OFFICIALS AND INDUSTRIAL SITES.
PUBLIC STATEMENTS CONSISTED LARGELY OF EXPRESSION OF
MUTUAL CONGRATULATION AND UNBREAKABLE SUPPORT. BOTH
PARTIES REITERATED THEIR LOYALTY TO THE SOVIET UNION.
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 02844 241646Z

2. LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE EMERGED FROM THE VISIT,
WHICH WAS GIVEN EXTENSIVE COVERAGE IN THE PRESS.
HONECKER DID USE THE OCCASION TO STATE THAT THE GDR
WILL PURSUE ITS POLICY OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE.
HE SAID THE GDR IS READY TO CONTINUE THE NORMALIZATION
OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GDR AND THE FRG ON THE BASIS

OF THE QUADRIpartite ACCORD ACCORDING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. CONVERSELY, THE GDR EXPECTS GOOD WILL AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE REALITIES ON THE PART OF THE FRG. PROGRESS CAN ONLY BE MADE, HONECKER STATED, IF THE FRG IS GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLE THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND THE GDR INVOLVE RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO INDEPENDENT, SOVEREIGN STATES WITH DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS.

3. BOTH SED AND DKP OFFICIALS SEEMED TO AVOID HARSH CRITICISM OF THE FRG, PRESUMABLY OUT OF CONCERN FOR THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF BREZHNEV TO BONN (ALTHOUGH CRITICISM OF WEST GERMANY IN THE EAST GERMAN PRESS CONTINUES UNABATED).

4. THE DKP VISIT WAS TYPICAL OF SED TREATMENT AND CULTIVATION OF WEST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES. THE ATTENTION GIVEN THE VISIT BY BOTH SED LEADERSHIP AND BY THE MEDIA WAS FAR OUT OF PROPORTION TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE VISITING PARTY IN ITS OWN COUNTRY.
BOLEN

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